

TO: Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Ave NW Suite 200
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RECEIVED

2011 NOV -3 P 1:50

FROM: Jim Cooper, Mayor
Redmon, Illinois 61949

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Regarding Docket Number: A2011-92

Participant Brief

To Whom It May Concern:

In support of my appeal for the township of Redmon I am entering the additional arguments and evidence to support our request that the closure determination of the Postal Service be sent back for further study or reversed is as follows:

1. The Postal Services decision to close our office is arbitrary in that they have issued five letters of proposal to five different offices that are all the same, the main factor is the savings of money of small amounts without consideration of other alternatives such as going to 4 hour stations. This was an attack on Rural America. It is the law that the Postal Service provide a MAXIMUM degree of effective and regular postal services to rural areas, communities and small towns where post offices are not self-sustaining. Turning us over to Rural Delivery, closing our PO Boxes, removal of our ability to conduct postal business within a reasonable driving distance is not maximum degree of service it is minimal at best and it is not fair and highly arrogant. The studies have shown very little will be saved by closing the small town offices a small fraction of one percent within the entire postal budget. This act of closing our post office is careless to the needs of the community in that they many of our residents are handicapped and cannot drive to the Post Office in Paris, a 20 mile round trip, but this seemed to have been ignored by Postal Management.
2. The Postal Service decision to close the Redmon Post Office is capricious in that the small amount of savings compared to the minimum of service offered is overwhelming.

The wages allowed for the rural carrier to deliver in Redmon is \$34.21 per hour.. Additionally, there are contract raises and COLA raises yearly. Plus the more deliveries a rural carrier gets the more money they make.

According to the documentation provided by the Post Service on Oct. 12, 2011 the Rural Carrier would be allowed 430 minutes a week for the delivery, that divided by 6 days a week is 72 minutes per day, that does not include mail prep time, bundling, and loading (See Exhibit Postal Service Document Item 17 page 2). With all the duties included the time would run about 2 hours. That making the cost \$68.42 per day plus mileage. They have failed to account for any mileage, showing 0 for miles (See Exhibit 1Postal Service Document Item 15 page 2). Mileage is now \$.72 cents a mile yet 0 miles were allowed.

1 year projection would be \$20,868.00 for rural carrier implementation plus mileage

Consider going to a 4 hour station it would only cost \$46.20 for wages for an Officer in Charge (See Exhibit 3,3A,3B, Exhibit 6 Postal service document Item 18 page 1) There would be no fringe benefits.

1 year projection \$ 14, 414.40

3. The cost of the rental of the building is insignificant due to the fact that the lease was just signed in May, 2011 for 5 years. (See Exhibit 4) The Postal Service stands to lose \$24, 400.00 over the term of this lease for a building that is perfectly fine with the PO Boxes intact. As a matter of fact the Postal Service in it's documentation failed to even do an building inspection therefore acknowledging that the building is intact and fine to continue in service. (See Exhibit 5 Postal Service Document 6page 1). They do not have a 30 daycancellation of the lease clause in the agreement (See Exhibit 6 Postal Service documentation Item 18 page 1)
4. If you were to look at the cost of the building per day it would only be \$16.71. Add that number to the \$46.20 for an Officer in Charge and it totals up to \$62.37. This is cheaper than rural delivery they want to put in. This doesn't make sound financial sense, just a fantasy of trying to get us to believe they will save thousands of dollars to close down our office. It just doesn't work out that way.

It would be cheaper to run the unit than to pay out \$24,400.00 for a building that will be empty for another 4 years. The costs would be as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Loss of building rent in lease | \$24,400.00 |
| Cost of Rural Carrier for delivery | \$20.868.00 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total expenses to change over | \$45,268.00 |
| Loss of retail sales (Exhibit 7) | \$12.202.00 (PS doc. Item 49 pg 2) |
| <hr/> | |
| | \$57,470.00 |

If you look at the 1 year numbers for keeping the station open for 4 hours they are as follows:

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| \$14,414.40 | wages |
| \$6100.00 | building rent |
| <hr/> | |
| \$20,514.40 | |
| \$12,202.00 | income from retail sales |
| <hr/> | |
| \$8312.40 | total operational costs |

If you look at those numbers over a 1 year period it would not cost the postal service anything to leave the office open on a 4 hour schedule. The Postal Service would save money by leaving the station open 4 hours than going to rural delivery.

This decision to close this post office and any other post office where there is no Postmaster is erratic at best. If each of the five offices that are proposed to close in our area have current leases that span a few years of time each the Postal Service would loose approximately \$100,000.00. The best move would be to wait for the leases to run out and then close down the facilities. To close down a facility it would take a team of workers to come out and disassemble everything then move it to another location or put it in storage, another costly expense. The Postal Services thinking is whimsical. They obviously have not thought it out in a real money savings premise.

In a ten year period the following numbers show that the Postal Service would operate at a loss if they changed over to Rural delivery in the town of Redmon. If you use the letter carrier wage they are as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Rural Carrier Wages | \$208,680.00 plus mileage |
| Loss of retail sales | \$122,020.00 |
| <hr/> | |
| | \$330,700.00 |

Running a 4 hour station per day $\$62.37 \times 305 = \$19022.85 \times 10 = \$190,228.50$
Minus the yearly income of $\$12,202.00 \times 10 = \$122,020.00$
Showing a Postal Service cost of only \$68,208.50

Rural Carrier Cost \$330,700.00
4 hour Station Cost \$68,208.50

Postal Service Loss of \$262,492.00 for ten year loss

5. It is obviously an abuse of discretion to close our office since there would be no substantial savings involved, as a matter of fact, it would be more costly.. The Postal Service has not met it's burden of proving that the savings would be substantial enough to take us from maximum service to minimal service as required by the law. Postal Service Management is struggling to save money starting with the small office instead of the large offices where more money is being spent. No Post Office should be closed, it is a service that was brought forward by our forefathers to keep communications open across the country, these closures are almost unconstitutional. The Postal Service is doing it in mass trying to save a fraction of one percent of the overall cost. The Postal Service has intentionally forgotten about the revenue the Redmon Postal Service brings in and this effects the numbers of costs vs. revenue. Consider that according to the Federal Times 10/23/11 in 2009 the Postal Service paid out over 641 million dollars in grievance settlements from contract violations. This alone had they abided by the National Agreements would have prevented the closure of any Post Offices. This is an abuse of discretion.
6. The Postal Service has never delivered mail here in Redmon, other than having the PO Boxes. This is a tradition that will be broken by putting in the rural delivery system and the townspeople are upset about it. Many of our streets are not designed to handle rural boxes, some have no room on their property and some sit on angled corners and the farms would have to place boxes on the main highway which is dangerous to park both for a rural carrier and the residents trying to get their mail.
7. After talking to some friends in Tuscola who have the CBU (Central box units) they say the mail gets wet, snow piles up in the front of them and they are often vandalized. We do not have a police department to monitor the safety of these type boxes and we are concerned about the safety of our mail. The residents of Tuscola do not like them and we do not want them. But there are no city easements in which to place this type of delivery system (CBU's), so we do not want the CBU's. If we have to go to rural delivery we want it to be house to house.
8. The Postal Service did not consider the community wishes at all. The facts as laid out in the Final Determination Notice have been rebutted by our arguments and thus prevents the Postal Service from saying their facts have been established.

The facts as stated in the Final Determination are true if they were to keep the Post Office open for 8 hours a day but they are not true if they change the schedule and run the office for only 4 hours per day. By doing that we still keep MAXIMUM service at hardly any expense. Additionally, during the town meeting we were informed that if the Postal Service goes to a 5 day delivery system as they want to the PO Boxes would still get their mail but the rural delivery would not proceed on a Saturday. Therefore our mail would be delayed by two days if our PO Boxes were closed and we were placed on a Rural delivery system. Urban communities would not be so effected in that they could easily go to a Post Office closer than 20 miles round trip to get PO Boxes and get their mail on Saturday, while we in the rural area do not have that option,. Driving 20 miles round trip to get your mail in not an option. This is not effective and regular mail service as in accordance with the law. If the Postal Service would have taken into consideration the surveys that were turned into them it is obvious that the community wishes were not considered. The following shows the example (Postal Service Exhibit Document Item 22 pages 16 – 171): 57 Surveys were returned to the Postal Service that is more than 50% of those sent out to the community.

Question: Do you pass another postal facility? 46 answered NO, 93% of those that responded.

Question: Do you think service would be (1) just as good, (2) better, (3) no opinion or (4) worse?

32 answered worse, 86% of those that responded

Question: Do you pick up mail daily? 49 responded yes, 95% of those that responded.

Obviously the community does not want a change in service and it's concerns were not properly addressed to their satisfaction. This must be considered in the feasibility study and decision to close, it obviously was not.

9. In a position paper written by the Honorable Wayne Schley, former Postal Rate Commissioner he states "Section 101 (b) of the Title 39 of the U.S. Code reads: "The Postal Service shall provide a maximum degree of effective and regular postal service to rural areas and small towns where post offices are not self-sustaining. No small Post office shall be closed solely for operating at a deficit" it being the specific intent of the Congress that effective postal services be insured to residents of both urban and rural communities."

Too often. this section of the law governing the U.S. Postal Service has been overlooked or not carried out in the spirit that Congress intended. Consequently, in 1976, Congress added a new responsibility to the Postal Regulatory

Commission. That new task was the responsibility of serving as an appellate court, so to speak, for those interested citizens who wished to object to any action to close or consolidate their local post office.” (See Exhibit 8) The sole reason that the Postal Service is closing down Redmon is due to a manufactured low cost factor that we have rebutted in our argument and above cited figures, a violation of the law.

10. (See Exhibit 9) According to Title 39 U.S. Code 404 (d) (5) the Initial feasibility Study. “A district manager, the responsible Headquarters vice president, or a designee of either, may initiate a feasibility study of a USPS-operated retail facility’s potential discontinuance in order to assist the district manager in determining whether to proceed with a written proposal to discontinue the facility.

(i) Permissible Circumstances. The initial feasibility study may be based on circumstances including, but not limited to, the following

(A) Postmaster Vacancy

(Note: our Postmaster retired in 2010 and the Postal failed to appoint another Postmaster, instead choosing to use a lower paid OIC (See Exhibit 3,3A,3B and Postal Service Document Item 18 page 1) This was a conscious act of placing the Redmon post office in a position of being put under a feasibility study)

(B) Emergency suspension of the USPS-operated retail facility due to cancellation of a lease or rental agreement when no suitable alternate quarters are available in the community

(Note: The lease agreement was just signed in May, 2011 for five years for the Redmon Post Office(See Exhibit 4 and Postal Service Document Item 18 page 1 and Postal Service Document 5 page 1, no eviction notice has been issued for this property Exhibit 10)

a fire or natural disaster, irreparable damage when no suitable alternate quarters are available in the community

(Note – there have been no such occurrences of this nature in Redmon)

challenges to the sanctity of the mail or similar reasons (Note – Our mail is safely kept in the PO Boxes in a building that is in good shape and needs no repairs and is handicap accessible)

(C) Earned workload below the minimum established level for the lowest non-bargaining (EAS) employee grade

(Note – there are no EAS employees at our facility only non-career employees who have no fringe benefits or contract wage increases Postal Document Item 18 page 1 and Exhibit 3, 3A, 3B)

Redmon has processed 113,916, pieces of delivered mail to our boxes from October 2010 to October 2011 that includes over 800 parcels. To not think that this would add more time onto a rural carrier is absurd. But the Postal Service has failed to add that into the amount they say it will cost them to use a rural carrier for this route through the town. The over 800 parcels delivered here in Redmon per standard is another 2 minutes per item, it also include items such as certified letters, registered letters, COD's, signature confirmations or picking up the outgoing mail. They just haven't put in the correct time factor involved in their documentation to show that it would only cost \$12,749 per year. Another issue is if the Postal Service does go to a 5 day delivery week the mail will just be heavier on each day of delivery and could possibly run into overtime, another expense they have not allowed for.

Their own documentation fails to address any of these concerns.

The total cost of keeping a maximum degree of effective and regular mail service to the rural area would be \$68,208.50, if rural delivery was placed in effect the Postal Service loss over a 10 year period would be \$262,492.00 over a ten year period.. Why would you go to a loss factor when you have maximum degrees of service at almost no cost already in place..

(D) Insufficient customer demand, evidenced by declining or low volume, revenue, revenue units, local business activity or local population trends

(Note- The Postal Service has stated that mail volume is dropping all over the country but they are closing only the small rural communities. It would appear that they are attempting to rid all of the rural communities of the service that is afforded the urban communities, a violation of the law)

The Postal Service documentation, specifically the surveys, submitted all say that the residents come in to get their mail daily. If this is not a specific customer demand along with the degree of corrected volume, I don't know what else could be considered.

However, in the afore mentioned amount of mail processed at our facility it seems that mail is still coming in enough to demand a fully operational station only at 4 hours per day.

(E) The availability of reasonable alternate access to postal services for the community served the USPS-operated retail facility or

(Note: When attempting to get authorization to do a possible change in service the Postal Service put down another closer Office, Brockton as a reasonable alternative to a USPS-operated retail facility.(Exhibit 12, Postal Service Documentation item 1 page 1) Brockton just received it's notice of proposal to close, as a matter of fact the Postal Service has issued notices of proposal to close to 50% of the Post Offices here in Edgar county (Exhibit 13, Postal Service Document Item 4 page 1) Leaving only 3 offices open all more than a 20 miles round trip away, this is not a reasonable alternate access to a postal service for the community served by the USPS operated retail facility.

(F) the incorporation of two communities into one or other special circumstances

Considering that the Postal Service stated during the town meeting that every time gas goes up 1 cent it costs the Postal Service a billion dollars, if this is true why would they go to having a rural carrier drive out to our town, deliver through the town and then drive back to the Paris Post Office 10 miles away instead of just having one morning truck come in with the mail for the PO Boxes, it would be more costly to pay for the gas for the rural carrier mileage. Additionally, to have to drive 20 miles round trip in the snow and ice is dangerous for the residents and especially the elderly if they have to mail a package, receive a package, buy money orders or cash money orders, weigh parcels, pick up certified, registered mail or COD's, how will they get the necessary flat rate boxes they need to mail their packages, certainly the rural carriers do not carry them in their vehicles. What about the expense of their gas to the postal customer of having to drive 20 miles round trip to do Postal business when the Redmon Post Office is located less than 1/4 mile away from all residents and have everything a postal customer needs?)

Many of the residents of Redmon walk in to get their mail and postal services, and now that they would have to drive to the Post Office in Paris it is a waste of gas, an important natural resource. Also the gas emissions would increase, negatively affecting the environment.

The Postal Service did not consider the needs of the community in that respect another violation of the law. As for incorporation into another office closer the Postal has proposed to close down 5 cities in one county, The hours of the Paris Post Office are not convenient to the working individual. They don't open until 8:30, (after work hours start) close from 11:30 – 12:30 (Lunch hour) then close again at 4:30, (before workers get off work) Apparently, this was not taken in consideration as noted on the surveys.

IMPERMISSIBLE circumstances. The following circumstances may not be used to justify initiation of an initial feasibility study:

(D) in the absence of any circumstances identified in paragraph (a) (5) (i) of this section, THE OPERATION OF A SMALL POST OFFICE AT A DEFICIT

(Note – this has been the determining factor in each of the closures down here in Edgar County without a doubt. They want to save a little money but tear down the law of which protects small town communities from such closures. We deserve and have the right to receive the maximum degree of regular and effective mail service and should not be expected to take or accept a lesser degree.) The feasibility study should never have even been done. Since mail volume is down all over the country as most business are having trouble in this economy the Post Office is taking unlawful and drastic measures to try and cut back but in the long run it will cost them more..

Postal Service documentation on the money page (Postal Service Document item 29 page 2 exhibit 11) specifically states no other factors were considered. This is a violation of the law.

10. Finally, since the Postal Service became self sufficient in 1970 Reorganization Act they have done fine with excellent service and stayed within their budget. In 2006 when Congress passed the law requiring the Postal Service to Pre-pay their retirement funds at the tune of \$5 billion per year, the Service has gone downhill and now they are having to close offices just to try and sustain. This law is not been placed on any other company in the nation, only the Postal Service. This is an unfair law and if any business was to be put under such a requirement it would file for bankruptcy and fail. This law needs to be repealed and let the Postal Service continue to do business on a normal level. The Postal Rate Commission should be trying everything to assist the Postal Service in repealing this law.

All of the income study costs were done in a “down economy”, which every Presidential candidate is saying it will get better and improve in a few years. If the Postal Service closes all these small offices and lays off employees and then mail volume goes up, they will never be able to get the small Post Offices back to the services they are providing to Rural America now. Don’t close down the Redmon Post Office. Send this back to the Postal Service for further review or rescind it all together. But to close just one office will be like a tidal wave for the Postal Service, they will close more and more if you allow it. Rural America needs you to prevent this violation of the law and set the Post Office straight.

For all of the above cited reasons, arguments and Exhibits we respectfully request that the PRC send back the Postal Services decision to close the Redmon Post Office if not totally rescind it. Failure to do so would be in violation of the law and arbitrary.

Jim Cooper,
Mayor, Redmon 61949

Rural Route Cost Analysis Form

Docket: 1378995 - 61949

Item Nbr: 17

Page Nbr: 2

Rural Route Carrier
Estimated Cost for Alternative Replacement Service

Office Name: REDMON
 Office Zip+4: 61949 -9000 District: CENTRAL ILLINOIS PFC

- | | | | |
|--|------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Enter the number of additional boxes to be added to the rural route | <u>100</u> | | |
| 2. Enter the number of additional miles to be added to the route | <u>0.00</u> | | |
| Enter the volume factor | <u>2.30</u> | | |
| | | Total (additional boxes x volume factor) | <u>230.00</u> |
| 3. Enter the number of additional boxes to be added to the rural route | <u>100</u> | | |
| Centralized boxes | <u>0.00</u> | x 1.00 Min | <u>0.00</u> |
| Regular L route boxes | <u>0.00</u> | x 1.82 Min | <u>0.00</u> |
| Regular Non-L route boxes | <u>100.00</u> | x 2.00 Min | <u>200.00</u> |
| | | Total additional box allowance | <u>200.00</u> |
| 4. Enter the number of additional daily miles to be added to the rural route | <u>0.00</u> | x 12 Mileage Standard | <u>0.00</u> |
| | | Total additional minutes per week (miles carried to two decimal places) | <u>430.00</u> |
| 5. Total additional annual minutes (additional minutes per week year) | <u>430.00</u> | x 52 Weeks | <u>22,360.00</u> |
| 6. Total additional annual hours (additional annual minutes/ 60 minutes per hour) | <u>22,360.00</u> | / 60 Minutes | <u>372.67</u> |
| 7. Enter the rural cost per hour (see national payroll summary report - rural carrier, consolidated) | <u>34.21</u> | | |
| | | Total Annual Cost (additional annual hours x rural cost per hour) | <u>12,748.93</u> |
| 8. Enter lock pouch allowance (if applicable) | | | 0.00 |
| | | Total annual cost for alternate service (annual cost minus lock pouch allowance) | <u>12,748.93</u> |

EXHIBIT #1

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Rural Route Cost Analysis Form

Docket: 1378995 - 61949
Item Nbr: 17
Page Nbr: 2

Rural Route Carrier Estimated Cost for Alternative Replacement Service

Office Name: REDMON
Office Zip+4: 61949-9000 District: CENTRAL ILLINOIS PFC

1. Enter the number of additional boxes to be added to the rural route 100

2. Enter the number of additional miles to be added to the route 0.00
Enter the volume factor 3.74

Total (additional boxes x volume factor) 374

| | | | |
|--|---------------|------------|---------------|
| 3. Enter the number of additional boxes to be added to the rural route | <u>100</u> | | |
| Centralized boxes | <u>0.00</u> | x 1.00 Min | <u>0.00</u> |
| Regular L route boxes | <u>0.00</u> | x 1.82 Min | <u>0.00</u> |
| Regular Non-L route boxes | <u>100.00</u> | x 2.00 Min | <u>200.00</u> |

Total additional box allowance 200.00

| | | | |
|--|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 4. Enter the number of additional daily miles to be added to the rural route | <u>0.00</u> | x 12 Mileage Standard | <u>0.00</u> |
|--|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|

Total additional minutes per week (miles carried to two decimal places) 5.74

| | | | |
|---|-------------|------------|---------------|
| 5. Total additional annual minutes (additional minutes per week year) | <u>5.74</u> | x 52 Weeks | <u>298.48</u> |
|---|-------------|------------|---------------|

| | | | |
|---|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| 6. Total additional annual hours (additional annual minutes/ 60 minutes per hour) | <u>298.48</u> | / 60 Minutes | <u>4.97</u> |
|---|---------------|--------------|-------------|

| | | | |
|--|--------------|--|--|
| 7. Enter the rural cost per hour (see national payroll summary report - rural carrier, consolidated) | <u>34.21</u> | | |
|--|--------------|--|--|

Total Annual Cost (additional annual hours x rural cost per hour) 170.18

| | |
|---|-------------|
| 8. Enter lock pouch allowance (if applicable) | <u>0.00</u> |
|---|-------------|

Total annual cost for alternate service (annual cost minus lock pouch allowance) 170.18

RECALCULATED VOLUME FACTOR

EXHIBIT #1B

Post Office Survey Sheet(continued)

Docket: 1378995 - 61949
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 Page Nbr: 2 Item: 15
 Page: 2

| | |
|-----|---|
| 10. | What equipment in the Post Office is not owned by the Postal Service (e.g., Post Office Boxes, furniture, safe)? <u>All owned by Postal Service</u> |
| 11. | List potential CBU/parcel lockers sites and distances from present Post Office site. <u>Village Hall 2 blocks from Post Office</u> |
| 12. | Are there any special customer needs? (People who cannot read or write, who cannot drive, who have infirmities or physical handicaps, etc.) How can these people be accommodated? <u>no</u> |
| 13. | <p>Rural delivery/HCR delivery.</p> <p>a. What is current evaluation?</p> <p>b. Will this change result in the route being overburdened? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If so, what accommodations will be made to adjust the route?</p> <p>c. How many boxes and miles will be added to the route? <u>0, box 0 Miles</u></p> <p>d. What would be the additional annual expense if the route is increased? <u>12749</u></p> <p>e. What is the one-time cost of CBU/parcel locker installation (id appropriate)? <u>0</u></p> <p>f. At what time of the day does the carrier begin delivery to the community?</p> <p>Will this delivery time be affected if the office is discontinued? (Y or N) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If so, how? <u>0</u></p> |
| 14. | Are the Post Office box fees at the facility that will provide alternative service different from those at the office to be discontinued? If so, how (Cost)? <input type="checkbox"/> More <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same <input type="checkbox"/> Less |

EXHIBIT 2
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[Postmaster Finder](#)
[Postal History](#)
[Research Sources](#)

Postmaster Finder

Postmasters by City

REDMON POST OFFICE
EDGAR COUNTY, ILLINOIS

**RESEARCH ON THIS POST OFFICE
HAS NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED.**

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Date Appointed</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Mrs. Muriel J. Gifford | Acting Postmaster | 11/25/1960 |
| Ernest S. Deremiah | Postmaster | 10/25/1963 |
| Mrs. Gladys P. Harris | Officer-In-Charge | 08/21/1970 |
| Mrs. Gladys P. Harris | Postmaster | 10/30/1971 |
| Virginia Barker | Officer-In-Charge | 03/20/1981 |
| Joetta (Snyder) Hochstetler | Postmaster | 07/11/1981 |
| James Taylor | Officer-In-Charge | 10/03/1997 |
| Alice Miller | Officer-In-Charge | 01/27/1998 |
| James Taylor | Officer-In-Charge | 03/05/1998 |
| Suzanne K. Talbott | Postmaster | 05/09/1998 |
| Andrea M. Gross | Officer-In-Charge | 02/13/2010 |
| Ethel Johnson | Officer-In-Charge | 07/25/2011 |

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US Postal Service Employees, 2011

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| Last | First | Title | Salary/Hr. Rate* | Hire Year | Facility | City | State | Zip |
|----------|-----------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------|----------|--------|-------|-------|
| GROSS | ANDREA M | POSTMASTER | \$0 Yr / or \$10.95 Hr | 2007 | REDMON | REDMON | IL | 61949 |
| MCCONKEY | DARLENE F | PM RELIEF/REPLUMT | \$0 Yr / or \$15.80 Hr | 1998 | REDMON | REDMON | IL | 61949 |

Records 1 to 2 of 2

*Salaries show base pay or hourly rate only and do not include Pay for Performance or other additional payments. Final pay for the year can be substantially lower due to part time work or higher due to incentive payments.

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Exhibit 3A

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US Postal Service Employees, 2011

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| name | JOHNSON, ETHEL J |
| Title | PM REL/REPLCMNT |
| Grade | 09 |
| Salary/Wage ¹ | \$0 yr / or \$9.98 hour |
| Rate Type (Annual or Hourly) | H |
| Duty Date | 01/06/2007 |
| Facility Name | METCALF |
| City | METCALF |
| State | IL |
| Work Zip | 61940 |

¹Salaries show base pay or hourly rate only and do not include Pay for Performance or other additional payments. Final pay for the year higher due to incentive payments.

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EXHIBIT 3B



Exercise of Renewal Option

Facility Name/Location:

REDMON- MAIN OFFICE (166582-002)
402 OAK ST, REDMON, IL 61949-9000

County : Edgar
Project No: J60942

To
COLLINGS ENTERPRISES
C/O JOSEPH R COLLINGS
ROCKVILLE, IN 47872-0169

Certified Mail #
70053110000357096221

Issuing Office

62 Stratford Drive
Bloomington, IL 60117-7000

Date of Existing Lease: 05/01/1986

The existing Lease has no amendments.

Pursuant to the Lease covering this facility, the Postal Service hereby exercises its option to renew said Lease as follows:

Term: 5 Years From (Date): 05/01/2011 To (Date): 04/30/2016 Annual Rate: \$6,100.00

In all other respects, the said Lease shall remain the same and is hereby confirmed.

Remarks

Thank you for providing space for postal operations.

Date

2/27/08

Name of Contracting Officer
Joyce Tillman

Signature

Renewalopt 01/2005

EXHIBIT 4



Building Inspection Report

A. Office

Name: REDMON State: IL Zip Code: 61949
Area: GREAT LAKES District: CENTRAL ILLINOIS PFC
Congressional District: 15th County: Edgar
EAS Grade: 11 Finance Number: 166582
Post Office: ☒ Classified Station ☐ Classified Branch ☐ CPO ☐

• There was no building inspection report nor photos for this office

Prepared by: Elizabeth Anderson
Title: CENTRAL ILLINOIS PFC Post Office Review Coordinator
Tele No: (708) 754-0674

Date: 03/30/2011
Fax No: (708) 754-6317

EXHIBIT 5
16

| U.S. Postal Service POST OFFICE CLOSING OR CONSOLIDATION PROPOSAL Fact Sheet | | | | 1. Date Prepared 04/14/2011 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|---------------|----------|------------|----------------|-----|----|--------------|----|---|-----------|---|---|----------|---|---|----------|-----|----|--------------------------|--|---|-------------------|--|---|
| 2. Post Office Name REDMON | | 3. State and ZIP + 4 Code IL, 61949-9000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4. District, Customer Service CENTRAL ILLINOIS PFC | 5. Area, Customer Service GREAT LAKES | 6. County Edgar | 7. Congressional District 15th | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8. Reason for Proposal to Discontinue postmaster vacancy in addition to declining postal needs in the community. The Redmon Post Office became vacant in May 2010. Regular and effective service can be provided to the customers with the rural carrier out of Paris, IL, how already provides service to the surrounding area. There are also 4 retail offices within 10 miles of the Redmon Post Office. | | 9. PO Emergency Suspend (Reason and Date) No Suspension | | 10. Proposed Permanent Alternate Service | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11. Staffing | | 12. Hours of Service | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| a. <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PM Vacancy Reason & Date: retired Occupied 05/01/2010 b. <input type="checkbox"/> QIC <input type="checkbox"/> Career <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Career c. Current PM POSITION Level (150)EAS-11 Downgraded from EAS-11 d. No of Clerks- 0 No of Career- 0 No of Non-Career- 0 e. No of Others- 0 No of Career- 0 No of Non-Career- 0 | | a. Time M-F 08:45 - 12:30, 13:00 - 16:00 Sat 08:00 - 11:00 a. Lobby Time M-F 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 Sat 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Total Window Hours Per Week 38.75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13. Number of Customers Served | | 14. Daily Volume (Pieces) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| a. General Delivery 0 b. P.O. Box 100 c. City Delivery 0 d. Rural Delivery 0 e. Highway Contract Route Box 0 f. Total 100 g. No. Receiving Duplicate Service 0 h. Average No. Daily Transactions 4.10 | | <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Types of Mail</th> <th>Received</th> <th>Dispatched</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a. First-Class</td> <td>262</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. Newspaper</td> <td>78</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. Parcel</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d. Other</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>e. Total</td> <td>341</td> <td>32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>f. No. of Postage Meters</td> <td></td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>g. No. of Permits</td> <td></td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | | Types of Mail | Received | Dispatched | a. First-Class | 262 | 30 | b. Newspaper | 78 | 1 | c. Parcel | 3 | 1 | d. Other | 0 | 0 | e. Total | 341 | 32 | f. No. of Postage Meters | | 0 | g. No. of Permits | | 0 |
| Types of Mail | Received | Dispatched | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| a. First-Class | 262 | 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| b. Newspaper | 78 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| c. Parcel | 3 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| d. Other | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| e. Total | 341 | 32 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| f. No. of Postage Meters | | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| g. No. of Permits | | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Finances: a. FY 2008 2009 2010 | | Receipts \$ 9,855 \$ 9,719 \$ 12,202 | b. EAS Step 1 PM Basic Salary (no Cola) \$ 33,168 | c. PM Fringe Benefits (33.6% of b.) \$11,111 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15a. Quarters | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Postal Owned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leased (If Leased, Expiration Date) 01/01/1900 Annual Lease \$ 0 30-day cancellation clause? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Evicted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No (If Yes, must vacate by) Located in: <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Other Suitable alternate quarters available? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15b. Explain lease being researched | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17. Schools, Churches and Organization in Service Area: No: 1 Redmon Christian Church | | 19. Administrative/Emanating Office (Proposed): Name PARIS PO EAS Level 20 Miles Away 9.1 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 Window Service Hours: M-F 8:30 p.m. SAT 9 a.m. Lobby Hours: M-F 24-hours SAT 24-hours PO Boxes Available: 257 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18. Businesses in Service Area: No: 9 Redmon Waterworks, Buck Township, Down Home Creations, Reliable Plumbing, Englum Grain Co. Inc., Edgar County New Vision Parish, B & B Pumping, Redmon Pit Stop, Terry Ingram Recycling | | 20. Nearest Post Office (if different from above): Name BROCTON PO EAS Level 11 Miles Away 6.2 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 to 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 Window Service Hours: M-F 8:15 p.m. SAT 9 a.m. Lobby Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. SAT 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. PO Boxes Available: 84 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21. Prepared by | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Printed Name and Title SUE WANDERSEE | | Signature SUE WANDERSEE | | Telephone No. AC 1 (708) 764-0674 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PO Discontinuance Coordinator Name ELIZABETH ANDERSON | | Telephone No. AC 1 (708) 754-0674 | | Location BEDFORD PARK, IL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

PS Form 4920, June 1993

32 EXHIBIT 6

I. RESPONSIVENESS TO COMMUNITY POSTAL NEEDS

The Postal Service is issuing the final determination to close the Redmon, IL Post Office and provide delivery and retail services by rural route service under the administrative responsibility of the Paris Post Office, located nine miles away.

The postmaster position became vacant when the postmaster retired on May 01, 2010. Since the postmaster vacancy an OIC has been installed to operate the office. Postmaster level and office service hours are determined by a workload analysis which includes the number of deliveries and revenue.

The office was studied for possible closing or consolidation due to the following reasons: postmaster vacancy in addition to declining postal needs in the community. Regular and effective service can be provided to the customers with the rural carrier out of Paris, IL which already provides service to the surrounding area. There are also four retail offices within 10 miles of the Redmon Post Office.

The Redmon Post Office, an EAS-11 level, provides service from 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Saturday and lobby hours of 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Monday - Friday and 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday to 100 post office box or general delivery customers and no delivery customers. Retail services included the sale of stamps, stamped paper, and money orders; special services such as Registered Mail, Certified Mail, Insured Mail, COD Mail, and Express Mail services; and the acceptance and dispatch of all classes of mail.

The retail window averaged four transaction(s) accounting for four minute(s) of retail workload daily. With minimal workload, the Postal Service feels that effective and regular service will be provided by rural route service. Office receipts for the last 3 years were: \$9,955 (26 revenue units) in FY 2008; \$9,719 (26 revenue units) in FY 2009; and \$12,202 (32 revenue units) in FY 2010. There were no permit mailer(s) or postage meter customer(s).

On May 06, 2011, representatives from the Postal Service were available at the Redmon Post Office to answer questions and provide information to customers. 22 customer(s) attended the meeting.

On April 25, 2011, 110 questionnaires were distributed to delivery customers of the Redmon Post Office. Questionnaires were also available over the counter for retail customers at the Redmon Post Office. 54 questionnaires were returned. Responses regarding the proposed alternate service were as follows: 3 favorable, 21 unfavorable, and 30 expressed no opinion.

When this final determination is implemented, delivery and retail services will be provided by the Paris Post Office, an EAS-20 level office. Window service hours at the Paris Post Office are from 8:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday. There are 257 post office boxes available.

Retail service is also available at the Brocton Post Office an EAS-11 level office, located six miles away. Window service hours at Brocton Post Office are from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 to 3:15 p.m., Monday through Friday and 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. on Saturday. There are 84 post office boxes available for rent.

The proposal to close the Redmon Post Office was posted with an invitation for comment at the Redmon Post Office, Brocton Post Office and Paris Post Office from May 20, 2011 to July 21, 2011. The following additional concerns were received during the proposal posting period:

The following nonpostal concerns were expressed from questionnaires, the community meeting, on the petition, and on the congressional inquiry:

1. **Concern:** Customer expressed a concern about the inability of the rural carrier to weigh and rate letters and packages
Response: The customer expressed a concern about the inability of the rural carrier to weigh and rate letters and packages. The rural carrier will accept any letters or packages for mailing. The carrier will estimate the cost and provide a receipt for any money received. On the following delivery day the carrier will provide change or a bill for the amount over the estimate.
2. **Concern:** Customers asked why their post office was being discontinued while others were retained
Response: The customer asked why the suspended post office was being discontinued while others were retained. Post offices are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. When there is a vacancy in a small office, it is customary to conduct a study of the business activity and investigate the feasibility of providing service by alternate means.
3. **Concern:** Customers expressed concern about collection of outgoing mail

EXHIBIT 7

294

The Appeals Process May Save a Post Office, But Only If Used

By the Honorable Wayne Schley
Former Postal Rate Commissioner

Section 101(b) of Title 39 of the U.S. Code reads: "The Postal Service shall provide a maximum degree of effective and regular postal service to rural areas and small towns where post offices are not self-sustaining. No small post office shall be closed solely for operating at a deficit (emphasis mine), it being the specific intent of the Congress that effective postal services be insured to residents of both urban and rural communities."

Too often, this section of the law governing the U.S. Postal Service has been overlooked or not carried out in the spirit that Congress intended. Consequently, in 1976, Congress added a new responsibility to the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC). That new task was the responsibility of serving as an appellate court, so to speak, for those interested citizens who wished to object to any action to close or consolidate their local post office.

The idea was to allow local citizens to ensure the law was being carried out as Congress intended. One startling fact should be noted: Very few post office closings or consolidations are appealed.

It is hard to believe that every community faced with the loss of its post office does not object. I suspect the real reason for so few appeals is that people simply do not know they can fight City Hall or, in this case, the Postal Service.

Remember, it is not really so much "fighting City Hall"

as it simply is being heard by a disinterested party in order to prevent a federal agency trampling on the rights of postal customers.

The PRC is, indeed, a disinterested third party. It has been said that, if anything, the PRC bends over backwards not to interfere with the Postal Service's management prerogatives in these cases. In fact, the law does not allow the commission to second-guess postal management's decision to close or consolidate a post office. The PRC only may examine the agency's decision and record and decide whether the Postal Service has stayed within the guidelines established under law.

The law requires the PRC to approve the Postal Service's decision, unless the agency was

- arbitrary, capricious, indiscreet or otherwise not in accordance with the law;
- without observance of procedures required by law; or
- unsupported by substantial evidence on the record.

In actuality, the PRC may not change the Postal Service's final decision to close or consolidate an office. It only can affirm, or let stand, the agency's decision or return (remand) for further consideration, i.e., do it right the next time.

Despite all the above, the appeals process is very important in bringing to light the actions of Postal Service management and ensuring they follow not only the letter of the law, but the spirit of the law, as well. Once an issue sees the light of day, minds often can be changed.

Elected officials and the public can become involved; efforts to save a post office can be galvanized.

However, unless the appeals process is used, none of these actions can occur. The key is to use the appeals process the way Congress intended. When most post offices are closed without the appeals process being used, the law is not working the way Congress envisioned.

The challenge—especially to retired Postmasters—is to either use or urge others to use the appeals process, where warranted. If it is not used, there is no chance to save a post office.

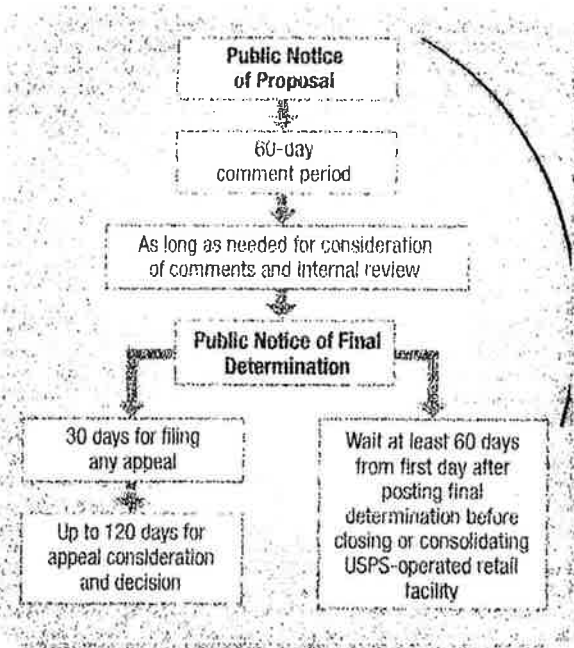
The result is a loss not only to the community and the Postal Service—which, after all, loses a retail outlet—but to the nation as a whole.

regularly served by another type of USPS-operated retail facility subject to discontinuance file an appeal with the Postal Regulatory Commission, the general counsel reserves the right to assert defenses, including the commission's lack of jurisdiction over such appeals. For purposes of determining whether an appeal is filed within the 30-day period, receipt by the commission is based on the postmark of the appeal, if sent through the mail, or on other appropriate documentation or indicia, if sent through another lawful delivery method.

(v) The commission may only affirm the Postal Service determination or return the matter for further consideration, but may not modify the determination.

(vi) The commission is required to make any determination subject to 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5) no later than 120 days after receiving the appeal.

(vii) The following chart summarizes the notice and appeal periods defined by statute.



(4) *Additional requirements.* This section also includes:

(i) Rules to ensure that the community's identity as a postal address is preserved.

(ii) Rules for consideration of a proposed discontinuance and for its implementation, if approved. These rules are designed to ensure that the reasons leading to discontinuance of a particular USPS-operated retail facility are fully articulated and disclosed at a stage that enables customer participation to make a helpful contribution toward the final decision.

(5) *Initial feasibility study.* A district manager, the responsible Headquarters vice president, or a designee of either, may initiate a feasibility study of a USPS-operated retail facility's potential discontinuance in order to assist

the district manager in determining whether to proceed with a written proposal to discontinue the facility.

(i) *Permissible circumstances.* The initial feasibility study may be based on circumstances including, but not limited to, the following:

(A) A Postmaster vacancy;

(B) Emergency suspension of the USPS-operated retail facility due to cancellation of a lease or rental agreement when no suitable alternate quarters are available in the community, a fire or natural disaster, irreparable damage when no suitable alternate quarters are available in the community, challenges to the sanctity of the mail or similar reasons;

(C) Earned workload below the minimum established level for the lowest nonbargaining (EAS) employee grade;

(D) Insufficient customer demand, evidenced by declining or low volume, revenue, revenue units, local business activity or local population trends;

(E) The availability of reasonable alternate access to postal services for the community served by the USPS-operated retail facility; or

(F) The incorporation of two communities into one or other special circumstances.

(ii) *Impermissible circumstances.* The following circumstances may not be used to justify initiation of an initial feasibility study:

(A) Any claim that the continued operation of a building without handicapped modifications is inconsistent with the Architectural Barriers Act (42 U.S.C. 4151 et seq.);

(B) The absence of running water or restroom facilities;

(C) Compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 651 et seq.); or

(D) In the absence of any circumstances identified in paragraph (a)(5)(i) of this section, the operation of a small post office at a deficit.

(iii) *Notice to customers.* Local management must provide notification and questionnaires to customers at the USPS-operated retail facility under study. Local management may determine whether notification is appropriate through media outlets. In addition, the following customers that receive delivery service from the USPS-operated retail facility must receive notification and questionnaires by mail:

(A) Post Office Box customers at the USPS-operated retail facility under study;

(B) Customers whose delivery carrier is stationed out of the USPS-operated retail facility under study;

(C) Customers in the delivery area of the same ZIP code as the retail facility under study, regardless of whether the delivery carriers for those customers are stationed out of the retail facility under study or out of a nearby facility; and

(D) Customers whom the retail facility under study



Eviction Notice

A. Office

Name: REDMON State: IL Zip Code: 61949
Area: GREAT LAKES District: CENTRAL ILLINOIS PFC
Congressional District: 15th County: Edgar
EAS Grade: 11 Finance Number: 166582
Post Office: ☒ Classified Station ☐ Classified Branch ☐ CPO ☐

There was no eviction notice for this office

Prepared by: Elizabeth Anderson
Title: CENTRAL ILLINOIS PFC Post Office Review Coordinator
Tele No: (708) 754-0674

Date: 03/30/2011
Fax No: (708) 754-6317

EXHIBIT 10

15

Section IV

Economic Savings

A statement of annual savings includes a breakdown as follows:

Postmaster salary (EAS- 11, Minimum, no COLA)

Fringe benefits 33.5%

Rental costs, excluding utilities

Total annual costs

Less estimated cost of replacement service

Total annual savings

| | |
|----|-------|
| \$ | 33168 |
| \$ | 11111 |
| \$ | 6100 |
| \$ | 5037 |
| - | 12749 |
| \$ | 37630 |

A one-time expense of \$ 0 will be/was incurred for installation of CBUs and parcel lockers.
Is postmaster salary based on the minimum salary without COLA?
Does postmaster salary reflect the current office evaluation?

Section V

Other Factors

The Postal Service has identified no other factors for consideration (if appropriate).

List other factors as appropriate.

Other factors when replacement service is a CPO.

Section VI

Summary

The proposal must include a brief summary that explains why the closing or consolidation is necessary and an assessment of how those factors supporting the need for change outweigh any negative factors. In taking competing considerations into account, the need to provide a maximum degree of effective and regular service must be paramount.

Section VII

Notices

Appropriate notice is made that this is a proposal and not a final determination. If a final determination is made to discontinue the office, information on the appeal process will be provided at that time.

Checklist Completed By:

Investigative Coordinator

Date

Reviewed and Certified By:

District PO Review Coordinator

Date

EXHIBIT 11

225



03/01/2011

DAVID MARTIN
DISTRICT MANAGER
GATEWAY PFC

SUBJECT: Authority to Conduct Investigation

I request your authorization to investigate a possible change in postal services for the office in the 15th congressional district.

Post Office Name: REDMON
Zip+4 Code: 61949-9000
EAS Level: 11
Finance Number: 166582
County: Edgar

Proposed Admin Office: PARIS PO
ADMIN Miles Away: 9.1
Near Office Name: BROCTON PO
Near Miles Away: 6.2

Number of Customers:
Post Office Box: 100
General Delivery: 0
Rural Route (RR): 0
Highway Contract Route (HCR): 0
Intermediate RR: 0
Intermediate HCR: 0
City Delivery: 0
Total Customers: 100

ZIP Code Change: Yes ☐ NO ☒ ZIP Code

The above office became vacant when the postmaster retired on 05/01/2010.

postmaster vacancy in addition to declining postal needs in the community. Regular and effective service can be provided to the customers with the rural carrier out of Paris, IL which already provides service to the surrounding area. There are also 4 retail offices within 10 miles of the Redmon Post Office

MICHAEL PFUNDSTEIN
Manager, Post Office Operations

Approval to Study for Discontinuance:

DAVID MARTIN
DISTRICT MANAGER
GATEWAY PFC

03/01/2011

DATE

cc: Area Manager, Public Affairs and Communication

Google maps Post Office

Notes Docket: 1378995 - 61949
Item Nbr: 4
Page Nbr: 1

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>A. US Post Office 139 East Wood Street, Paris, IL - (217) 466-5960 1 review</p> | <p>B. US Post Office 402 Oak Street, Redmon, IL - (217) 884-2241 1 review</p> |
| <p>C. US Post Office 109 Edgar Street, Vermilion, IL - (217) 275-3711</p> | <p>D. US Post Office 126 E Buena Vista St, Kansas, IL - (217) 948-5331</p> |
| <p>E. US Post Office 110 East 3rd Street, Brocton, IL - (217) 385-2413</p> | <p>F. Paris Post Office Paris, IL</p> |
| <p>G. US Post Office 210 West Madison Avenue, Chrisman, IL - (217) 269-2031 3 reviews</p> | <p>H. US Post Office 212 N Central St, Metcalf, IL - (217) 887-2412 1 review</p> |
| <p>I. US Post Office 4 Pike Street, Oakland, IL - (217) 346-2424 1 review</p> | <p>J. US Post Office 150 Front Street, Hume, IL - (217) 887-9031 1 review</p> |

